

STARR KING VIEW

Starr King UU Fellowship
-A Welcoming Congregation-
December 2021



In this issue:

- [Sunday Services](#)
- [Minister's Letter](#)
- [Letter from the President](#)
- [Soundbites](#)
- [News from the DRE](#)
- [Outreach for December](#)
- [Notes from BLM Workshop](#)
- [Climate Action Team](#)
- [Hiking Options](#)
- [Book Group](#), Breakfast Club
- [COVID-19 Guidelines for our Fellowship Building:](#)



Our Little Free Library Happily Being Used!

If you have possible donations, please talk with Miriam Chandler who will be managing our replacements.

Year End Reminders from the Treasurer

- Please remember to note on the memo line of your check what your check is for. If it is left blank, we will assume it is meant to be a non-pledge donation.
- Checks for contribution you wish to see included on your 2021 charitable giving statement must be postmarked or dropped off at the Fellowship by December 31st.
- For 2021, a special, temporary tax provision allows people who choose to take the standard deduction to claim a limited deduction on their 2021 federal income tax returns for cash contributions made to qualifying charitable organizations, such as the Fellowship. Individual filers, including married individuals filing separate returns, can claim a deduction of up to \$300, while the maximum deduction is increased to \$600 for married individuals filing joint returns.



Minister's Newsletter

*Joy does not simply happen to us.
We have to choose joy and keep choosing joy.*
~ Henri Nouwen

Our Soul Matters theme for December is *Opening to Joy*. I can see how this would lend itself to the holiday season. "Joy" is written all over cards, ornaments, and shop windows. To be honest though, I hadn't put a lot of thought into the concept of joy. I imagined that it was something that sneaks up on you and presents itself – a delight, but not something that one goes looking for. I've changed my mind.

Last year, my spiritual director (think therapist for your soul) had a challenge for me. I had been frustrated with somethings in my life – the demands of being on-line and not in-person, missing my family and friends, and winter *was* dragging on. So, I complained. She heard me and then offered this challenge. "Linda," she said, "I want you to find one example of awe or wonder every day and write it down. Even on those days that seemed to have nothing remarkable or worthy of attention." Because I journal, writing it down was not a struggle. Finding a pen and a piece of paper, that's easy – they are always beside the chair on which I sit as I drink my morning coffee. But awe and wonder, what would that be? I didn't go into the forest every day. I didn't see people I long to see, every day. My days could be pretty routine, mundane sometimes. But in just a few days, the process of finding awe and wonder, joy really, became the delight of my morning writing. It helped me pay attention to the small wonderful things that, every day, make their way into our lives. The color of the morning sky, the footprints of a mysterious animal in the snow, and the good-natured mischief of Mica, my dog, as she works to get my attention. It was the warm, knowing glance of my partner as we shared an inside joke. All of this, is after all, a form of intimacy, of participating more mindfully in our days. I still engage in this spiritual practice, of noticing awe and wonder. This month I invite you to do the same. Notice, find one thing every day worthy of your attention, your awe. Then honor it by writing it down. Maybe a little notebook for just this practice, could be a small gift to yourself this holiday season. In this way, I hope you too can find joy, every day.

This month your minister, staff, and volunteers (I love our volunteers) are working hard to bring you opportunities for connection. There are a few spaces left in the new on-line Soul Matters group. It meets on the third Wednesdays of the month. Please contact me if that's of interest to you. The activities group is joyfully engaging in Waterfall Wednesdays and more. There are opportunities to be with others in volunteer capacities including religious education (all lessons provided) or coffee set up. You can help make our services beautiful by bringing flowers on Sunday. Sign up for these are on our website. More importantly, I invite you to open yourself to the joy of being in community. I know that Covid has smacked us around some, making us worry, leaving us longing for connection. But, let's not let it take away our joy. Joy is ours, awe and wonder are always present in this wild and beautiful world if only we take a moment to notice.

This year our Christmas Eve service will be held like our Sunday services, available both in person in our sanctuary and on-line. We'll gather to celebrate the coming of the light and the beauty and promise of new life.

Take good care my friends, you are worthy of good care.

In faith and love,
Rev. Linda

[Back to Home Page](#)

Sunday Services - December, 2021

Live STREAM via ZOOM <https://zoom.us/j/567620881>

December 5 Because of Sadness Rev. Linda Barnes

Many of us suffer winter blues, a sadness that comes with the ever-shortening days. Some of us suffer from holiday blues, when we miss those who we cannot be with or simply wish things were different. Sadness though, has a purpose. Join us to remember joy's opposite, sadness, and explore how we might hold both sadness and joy.

December 12 Return the Gift Rev. Linda Barnes

Your life is a gift, a really fine gift. To make one's life better, ironically, we need to return the gift. Let's spend this Sunday service exploring how it is we live our lives in a way that offers our gifts to a world that needs just what we have to offer.

December 19 Solstice: Sun Standing Still Rev. Linda Barnes

Winter solstice, the standing still between the lessening and lengthening of daylight, offers a point of reflection, celebration even, of the light itself. Join us as we anticipate the stillness of the winter solstice and welcome the coming light.

December 24 Christmas Eve Service Rev. Linda Barnes

Join the Starr King UU Fellowship for our Christmas Eve service, joy will be our guest! We will gather in the sanctuary and on-line, at 5:30 pm, to tell the Christmas story in words, and music, and light.

December 26 Book Service: What Have You Been Reading? Nancy Chaddock

This low-key service offers us the chance to share the books we've read in the past year and to give the Starr King UU Fellowship staff a well-deserved week off. This service will be offered entirely on-line via Zoom.

[Back to Home Page](#)

Do You Wish You Could See a Service You Missed?

Did you know that most Sunday Services are recorded and posted to Vimeo - a cloud-based video platform similar to YouTube?

You can view any past service by navigating to our home page www.starrkingfellowship.org and scrolling down to the section called "Sundays at Starr King."

You can see the most recent Sunday or any past services.

Online Member/Friend Directory

Need to reach your Starr King Friends? All members and active friends have access to our online directory. The link is on the Member menu item of the starrkingfellowship.org web page or you can simply go to the url skuuf.simplechurchcrm.com. Your username is your first name and last name separated with a period such as mickey.mouse. If you have never logged in before, simply click on Forgot Password and one will be emailed to you. If you like using your mobile device, you can download the app for Simple Church. To setup, type in the domain name "skuuf".

Here's what you can do there:

- Change your contact information
- Find contact information of SKUUF members
- See what groups you belong to (e.g. Soul Matters, Smooth Sundays)

Questions? Contact kmkelsey@gmail.com.



President's letter

Tis' the season for gift giving so I would just like to take a moment and recognize some of the wonderful gifts we have been given here at Starr King.

- * Amazing Sunday Tech Team who rolls with the glitches and still manages to bring the Sunday service to all both near and far!
- * Staff willing to "go with the flow" because this certainly is not what anyone signed up for!
- * Hard working Board who month after month continue to work for the good of Starr King
- * Volunteers who provide flowers, coffee, RE assistance every Sunday
- * Our Building and Grounds committee who not only keep the grounds well maintained, with the help of many volunteers, but also the heat, the floor, the chairs and whatever else is asked to keep our building fully operational.
- * Technology which has been a gift and a curse but allows people to help and participate even when they aren't in NH.
- * The gift of your presence. You show up- for meetings, for volunteer work and on Sunday mornings.

Thank you...

May the New Year bring health, good wishes, and an end to the pandemic!
Happy 2022

Mary Crowell



[Back to Home Page](#)

Board's Bulletin

Reach out to any board member if you have questions or just to discuss matters.

Governing Board

Pres.: Mary Crowell
Vice Pres.: Jane Clay
Treasurer: Janet Englund
Secretary: Stephanie Halter

Trustees:

Cindy Spring
Sandy Mucci
Stewart Weldon
Richard Odman
Diana Pamplin

Office Hours

The Reverend Dr. Linda Barnes is in her office
Tuesday and Wednesday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM,
Thursday 10:00 AM. to 3:00 PM or by appointment, 536-8908.

Fellowship Office is open Tuesday through Thursday
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
536-8908

Soundbites

Our home was blessed with family and love over Thanksgiving, and our home is decorated for the Christmas Holiday season with a tree, lights, and warm smells of baking! We are certainly “Open to Joy,” as the theme of the month for Starr King suggests.

Yet, in the Christian calendar, this is the season of Advent – a time of “waiting” for the birth of Jesus. I can see how those two themes can compliment one another, if not perhaps evoke the same response.

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” is a favored hymn of Advent. It pleads for release from captivity and an emergence into freedom. The refrain sings “Rejoice! Rejoice!” to remind us that through the waiting, there is hope, peace, joy and love. I love that this song is in a minor key, which brings a certain melancholy about the tune, highlighting the struggle while anticipating the arrival of the “son of God.”

Likewise, with Hanukkah, there is a waiting for the precious oil to arrive – 8 long nights with scarce resources. There is hope and faith, however, and the temple is safe haven against the foes. As for Solstice, there too is waiting: for the longest night to turn the axis toward more light, more love, more hope. Indeed, more Joy. After a heap of Patience!!

I think that we as a community can relate how sometimes patience brings its own rewards. Waiting for in person gatherings, waiting to sing together, waiting for all peoples to be healthy and free from oppression. These things can bring joy – much joy – though the effort can be taxing at times.

So, my friends, I encourage you this season to “give yourself to Love, if Love is what you’re after. Open up your hearts to the tears and laughter.” (thanks, Kate Wolf!)

See y’all in church
Sarah Dan

Schedule:
December 5, 12, 19 – Sarah Dan, musician
December 26 – Book Service

Choir is off December 30.



[Back to Home Page](#)



Check out our NEW solar lights
on the wall next to the
steps/walkway going into the back of the Fellowship!

Message from the Director of Religious Education

Dear Starr King Fellowship,

Happy December! Here is the monthly update for RE:

We need volunteers! Click the link on our website, and check out the magic of RE classes.

We've been exploring the concept of history during Sunday mornings, which is remarkably interesting given a 4 year old's concept of "long ago" can vary drastically compared to a 12 year old's conception. While we parsed out the differences between the 1960's and the Jurassic period, we learned a little bit about what makes a historical figure. For those looking to take notes, here is a piece of wisdom from the intelligent youth of our community:

"We're all going to be history some day, so if you want to be remembered, try being kind and changing the way people think."

Pretty spot on if I do say so. We'll be moving our study into the monthly theme of Opening to Joy. Watch out for random acts of kindness!

Our youth group met once this month, and brainstormed some of the social justice issues that they are most passionate about. These included environmental justice, racial justice, and food insecurity in their local communities. In lieu of a trip to Nicaragua, we will be endeavoring to plan and facilitate a service project / trip sometime in 2022, giving our youth an opportunity to make a difference.

In other news, despite our best efforts, we will be unable to offer an official OWL class this year. We need trained facilitators in our community desperately, especially men. To address the dearth of resources currently available, parents should look for OWL-inspired, human health and sexuality classes to be offered sometime in the new year.

If you have an idea for a service project or trip, or have any questions about religious education at Starr King, please email me at dre20@starrkingfellowship.org

Much love,
Tatum Barnes

[Back to Home Page](#)

Hannaford Cards

With Season of Giving approaching soon,
we want to remind you that SKUUF has a
variety of denominations for Hannaford gift cards.
Betty Ann plans to be at services before Christmas
so bring you check book or stop in at SKUUF office
to purchase cards when Melissa is on site.
Remember the Postal person, handyman,
snow plow driver, etc.
They will appreciate your kindness as will SKUUF.



December 2021 Outreach :

The New Hampshire Food Bank

Today in New Hampshire approximately 1 in 9 individuals, including 12% of all children, do not know where their next meal is coming from. For some children the free or reduced meal they receive at school will be their only meal that day. While these numbers are an improvement over the last two years, they still represent significant need in New Hampshire.

In 2020, the NH Food Bank distributed 17.7 million pounds of food to over 400 partner organizations (non –profit registered agencies) assisting people in need. Our local Community Closet and Got Lunch programs were among the recipients. A new NH Food Bank initiative, “NH Feeding NH”, began as a pilot program in 2020, with 170 NH farms providing nearly 40,000 pounds of locally grown produce, fruit, dairy and meat to 75 Food Bank partner agencies. It is now an official program, with 125 partner agencies participating this year. It’s a win-win situation, with both farms and recipients benefiting.

The NH Food Bank receives no federal or state monies, and relies on individual and business support for its funding. In this season of gift-giving, our collective donations to the New Hampshire Food Bank will help provide support and sustenance to those in need. Every dollar we contribute provides enough food for up to two nutritious meals.

Donations may be made online by using the donate button on the Star King UU Fellowship home page, or by placing your contribution in the collection basket, or by mailing a check to the Fellowship at PO Box 337, Plymouth NH, 03264; please label your donation “food”.

As always, your support makes a difference- thank you!

Katherine Hillier
Outreach coordinator

[Back to Home Page](#)



Thanks to your generosity

To our October Outreach

We were able to Collect

\$1,086.00

for

NH Bail & Bond Fund

Sunday collections from the Starr King website.

The [Donate Here](#) button on the website is found at the top right of the [Starr King UU Fellowship page](#). It is very simple to use, and only requires you to register the first time you use the online donate form. After your registration is submitted, you will receive a welcome email from Simple Church Giving, which also includes a link to our donation page. You are also able to donate directly from the Simple Church app that many of you have on your smart phones.

The donation page form allows you to select the amount you wish to deposit into our virtual collection bowl, and to designate if you would like it to be a recurring donation, or not.

The funds you designate can be drawn from your bank account, or from a credit card account. Either way, *please consider helping to cover the cost of processing electronic donations by clicking on the "Convenience Fee" box when submitting your donation.*



Black Lives Matter Workshop

Nine of us met over zoom on November 21st to talk about being white and confronting racism.

Our Opening Words were from Beth Strano - “An Invitation to Brave Space”

*Together we will create brave space.
Because there is no such thing as a “safe space” -
We exist in the real world.
We all carry scars and we have all caused wounds.*

*In this space
We seek to turn down the volume of the outside world.
We amplify voices that fight to be heard elsewhere,
We call each other to more truth and love...*

This reading set the stage for **stories from our lives** as we became aware of white privilege and of how systematic racism has shaped who we are as individuals and as a country.

Robin DiAngelo, in her book Nice Racism, writes: *“It’s actually liberating and transformative to start from the premise that, of course, I’m thoroughly conditioned into racism. Then I can stop defending, denying, explaining, minimizing and get to work actually applying what I profess to believe...”*

One participant said “we should be teaching the history we never learned.” The “1619 Project” was suggested as a good place to start. It gives American history through a **“refocused lens”**.

We talked about the concern by some parents that their white kids will feel guilty if they hear about “white privilege” in school. Even though we personally did not enslave people, there is **“common humanity guilt”** - the guilt that covers up what white Americans did and are still doing to divide and reward by skin color.

We agreed that as Unitarian Universalists we have a responsibility to go forward and build a better world for all.

~~~~~

Your BLM Committee is taking a break over the Holidays and will resume our Zoom conversations in January. Please choose a book or two from our **Fellowship library** to read during the long winter nights ~

[Back to Home Page](#)

## Howling Monkey Nicaraguan Coffee Still Available

Shade-grown, organic Howling Monkey Nicaraguan coffee can still be purchased to support both the Starr King Youth group and Compas de Nicaragua.

It is available either whole bean or ground, \$14 per pound. Please Contact Bob and Jane Clay, 603-996-1207 or [jhclay@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhclay@roadrunner.com), to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.





## Climate Action

### COP26 Basics (In Case You Missed It)

From Suellen Skinner

The 26<sup>th</sup> climate change summit wrapped up at the end of last week (November 12) in Glasgow, Scotland and the reviews of the outcome have been coming along. So, as I put this together, a confession: I didn't watch all the interviews and speeches. I read the daily summaries from Washington Post and National Public Radio. So, here is a place to begin with some good news/bad news results from the actual agreement (which isn't too long and can be found on the internet—of course!)

Here are five big takeaways according to the Washington Post's team:

#### 1. Weakened fossil fuel language made the cut

The Glasgow Climate Pact is the first U.N. climate deal to explicitly mention the need to move away from coal power and subsidies for fossil fuels. But in the face of lobbying from top fossil-fuel-producing countries, the language was watered down several times during the negotiations.

A preliminary draft of the deal released Wednesday called on nations to “accelerate the phasing-out of coal and subsidies for fossil fuels.” However, a second draft released Friday instead urged countries to move away from “unabated coal” and “inefficient subsidies for fossil fuels” and on Saturday, China and India successfully pushed for another last-minute change to the crucial phrase, saying they would agree only to “phase-down unabated coal,” rather than “phase out.”

#### 2. The deal doesn't include a fund for loss and damage

Wealthy nations, which have historically added the most greenhouse gases to the atmosphere, successfully fought off a proposed fund to help poor nations deal with loss and damage. Instead, delegates agreed to start a “dialogue” about the idea.

Note: The U.S. opposed any reference to the “carbon budget” which estimates how more can be emitted before disaster strikes.

#### 3. The deal keeps the 1.5-degree target alive—sort of

The Glasgow Climate Pact does not achieve the more ambitious goal of the 2015 Paris agreement: limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above preindustrial levels. The U.N. Environment Program reported that COP26 would probably end with the world on track to warm 2.5 degrees Celsius (4.5 degrees Fahrenheit) though other analyses suggested that number.

#### 4. The Timeline for climate action was accelerated

The deal “requests” that world leaders “revisit and strengthen” their 2030 targets under the Paris agreement, known as “nationally determined contributions” or NDCs, by the end of 2022. That speeds up the typical five-year timeline for countries to submit new or updated NDCs.

#### 5. Young people had a big presence at COP26

More than 100,000 young people marched in the streets of Glasgow last weekend to demand climate action. The next conference is scheduled to Egypt next year. However, it was noted the Egyptian law forbids peaceful protests and there were many this year including the 100,000 participants in the Saturday youth protest. [More...](#)

[Back to Home Page](#)

## Climate Action

### COP26 Basics (continued)

Some of the most hopeful actions to come out were not conference actions:

India, Saudi Arabia and Brazil pledged to be net zero—by 2070, 2060, and 2050 respectively. However, no measures for accountability.

100 countries signed an agreement to reduce methane releases by 30% by 2030.

Another coalition of 105 nations with 85% of the world's forests to reverse deforestation. Included are Brazil, Indonesia and the Congo. They agreed to conserve/restore forests, increase funding to promote sustainable practices and restore 500 million acres by 2030. This included \$19 billion from public and private funds.

It is worth noting that, while the United States was welcomed back, and Biden did his best to assure everyone that we are ready to be leaders in this project, there are still doubts about how much we can be trusted. Also, nations unwilling to act decisively emphasize that out actions and our rhetoric don't always match. That being said, we should celebrate that passage and signing of the infrastructure bill and, as of November 19, the passage of the Build Back Better bill in the House of Representatives, which must be revisited and processed by the Senate to be handled using the reconciliation process. If this goes forward, our country will finally be taking significant steps toward the change we need to make.

### Green Tip of the Month

As you plan for holiday giving, plan to change the way you wrap things. Plan alternatives to traditional wrapping paper:

1. wrap in newspaper (comics are great), brown butcher paper, or other recyclable options.
2. Collect, save and reuse decorative gift bags and handle them with care.
3. Make cloth bags or wrap in fabric remnants for another permanent style of wrapping.

[Back to Home Page](#)

### IRA Gifts for 2021

As year-end approaches we remind you that if you are 70 ½ or older and have an IRA, gifts transferred directly from that IRA to qualified charitable organizations, like our Fellowship, may:

- allow you to make a gift of pre-tax dollars, rather than an after-tax gift through a check or credit card;
- be excluded from federal income taxes since your gift would pass directly from your IRA to the Fellowship; and
- provide you with a tax savings regardless of whether you itemize or not.

Note: The CARES Act eliminated the requirement for most Required Minimum Distributions from IRAs in 2020, but the requirement has been reinstated for 2021.

## Breakfast Club

On Friday, December 3, we will meet at Annie's at 8:30 AM for breakfast. At 10:00 AM, Rebecca will give us a tour of the exhibit, "[A Photographic Diary of Life in the Granite State](#)," at the Museum of the White Mountains. Parking is beside and behind the Museum, in the back lot at Annie's, or at meters on the street. We can carpool from Annie's. Please contact Deedie at [cdkriebel@gmail.com](mailto:cdkriebel@gmail.com), if you plan to attend the breakfast and or the tour.

## Book Group News

The SKUUF book group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. If you'd like to be on the email list for the zoom link and book group announcements, please email either [ad-min@starringfellowship.org](mailto:ad-min@starringfellowship.org) or [kmkelsey@gmail.com](mailto:kmkelsey@gmail.com) or call the office at (603) 536-8908. The group has chosen the following to discuss.

December 14 - ***The Accidental President, Harry Truman and the four months that changed the world*** by A. J. Baize

January 11 - ***Where the Crawdads Sing*** by Delia Owens

February 8 - ***Lab Girl*** by Hope Jahren

[Back to Home Page](#)

## Zoom Etiquette

Starr King Fellowship, like so many other organizations, perhaps even your extended family, have adapted to meetings and gatherings held virtually now more than ever. Zoom and other formats have etiquette suggestions that make the experience better for all.

- Location: background should be clean and tidy. You may use a virtual background as well.
- Lighting: any lighting should be in front of you. Close blinds if window is in background.
- Position: camera device should be at eye level and capture from the chest up.
- Noise: mute yourself, unmute to speak. Background noise from any source is amplified.
- Video: turn on as purpose of this format is to connect with others and visual is preferred.
- Appearance: dress appropriately. If you or your device move, it can be embarrassing for all.
- Screenshots: ask permission of participants first and inform all where it will be posted.
- Speaker or gallery view: speaker view is good to focus, gallery view to see others' reactions.

Smiling, kindness and involvement continues in our fellowship, thanks to a virtual format (and Rev. Linda and many others!) and we are doing as best as we can. With the pandemic and chaos in the world, thank you Zoom.

Jane Clay and the Board

*This list has been edited from <https://www.torontonicity.com>  
Search "zoom etiquette" for more information.*

## Starr King Hiking Group

Welcome, hikers of all ages! Our newly resurrected hiking group plans to hike twice a month. We will continue the Second Sunday Hike tradition with the focus on easy to moderate hikes that will be family friendly. Our Waterfall Wednesdays Group will select a good weather Wednesday to hike to one of the many amazing waterfalls in our area. We'll have more time on a weekday to drive farther and maybe hike longer.



**Second Sunday Hike** - Sunday, December 12 to Inspiration Point at the Slim Baker Foundation [hiking trails](#) (click for trail map) in Bristol.

"Beginning in 1960 (click for history), the area of the Little Roundtop summit (now known as Inspiration Point) was developed as a memorial to Dean Stephens by his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Waldo Stephens. Dean had spent all his summers in the Bristol community while he was growing up and loved the area deeply. He died in 1958 at the age of 28 in an airplane crash. Inspiration Point offers a spectacular panoramic view of the Pemigewasset Valley and much of eastern New Hampshire beyond." It is an easy to moderate hike and all levels of hikers are welcome. In addition, dogs are allowed if leashed or under voice control. We will leave the Fellowship after the service at 11:00 AM from the lower parking lot. If you plan to join us, RSVP to Deedie at [cdkriebel@gmail.com](mailto:cdkriebel@gmail.com) for updates.

**Special Holiday Treat** - Friday, December 17 at 5:00 PM and Saturday, December 18 at 8:00 PM. Luminary Walk. Come join us on Friday or Saturday for a night hike to the summit of Little Roundtop and Inspiration Point. Our walk will be lighted by luminaries all along the trail. It's a short, uphill climb to the top. After the hike, join us at the bottom for a campfire and s'mores (kits available while supplies last or we can bring our own). Dogs are allowed if leashed or under voice control. Which date we choose



will be weather dependent and a group choice of the earlier or later time. If we go on Friday at 5:00 PM, we might want to consider dining together in Bristol at the nearby Cielito Mexican Restaurant after the hike. This should be fun! RSVP to Deedie at [cdkriebel@gmail.com](mailto:cdkriebel@gmail.com) to join us and indicate which date you prefer.

**Waterfall Wednesdays**- Campton Conservation Land. Date and time TBD. The hike is about 6 miles, mostly on a forest service road/snowmobile trail. It follows West Branch Brook, but mostly at a distance until closer to the falls. The cascades/waterfalls are at the end of the trail. As a point of reference, once you get to the cascades, you are opposite (across the water) a small condo development at the end of Alden Drive in Campton. This is a dog friendly hike. If you plan to join us, RSVP to Deedie at [cdkriebel@gmail.com](mailto:cdkriebel@gmail.com) for updates, including a carpool meeting place.



[Back to Home Page](#)

## Guidelines for worship services and meetings for children and youth during the COVID-19 Pandemic: December 2021

Thank you for respecting the guidelines below which are based on the currently available scientific information and updated UUA guidelines. They take risk into account, while maximizing our opportunities to gather in person and to both include and protect our children and youth.

**Time to update your vaccination!** If you were vaccinated more than six months ago with either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine, or received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, it is **very** important to get a booster as soon as possible now that we are indoors more, case numbers are high in New Hampshire, and we face emerging new variants. Also, children over 5 should now be vaccinated.

We need to protect each other as much as possible in order to continue to enjoy meeting in person for those who chose that over Zoom attendance.

### Guidelines:

- **Please join us in person if you are vaccinated and willing to wear a well-fitting mask.** This is to protect all of us, but most particularly, to protect our children under 5 who do not yet have access to the vaccine by reducing risk for them and for their parents.
- If you are not vaccinated or vaccinated and not comfortable wearing a mask, or just not comfortable with in-person gatherings at this time, please join us remotely. We will continue using Zoom so those who cannot join us in person can participate in our services.
- Physical distancing will be in place. Of course, couples and families can sit together.
- Our children will meet downstairs, wearing masks and observing distancing guidelines, in a room with an air purifier, once it is too cold to gather outdoors.
- Our youth group members who are vaccinated will meet in the Sanctuary, distanced and masked.
- **The second Sunday of every month will be Family Sunday.** For that service, we will welcome our children and youth to join us in the sanctuary. The children, youth and parents will need to wear masks along with the rest of us.
- All adults who work with children and youth must be vaccinated and wear masks.
- No coffee hour (sigh) until further notice. While the weather permits, we can socialize outdoors after the service. The UUA recommends masks even outdoors, and we agree.
- Expect that anyone speaking from the pulpit or the piano will remove their mask while speaking.
- The UUA recommends no singing. Sarah Dan is creatively finding ways the choir can participate safely.

Please refer to our website at [starrkingfellowship.org](http://starrkingfellowship.org) for building use guidelines for committees and groups.

Starr King Ad Hoc Committee on Safety during the Pandemic: Reverend Linda Barnes, Mary Crowell, Joe Kelaghan, Susan Scrimshaw and Susan Skinner.

[Back to Home Page](#)



Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
101 Fairgrounds Road  
PO Box 337  
Plymouth, New Hampshire 03264

admin@starrkingfellowship.org  
(603) 536-8908  
[www.starrkingfellowship.org](http://www.starrkingfellowship.org)

#### **Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Linda Barnes, Minister  
Sarah Dan Jones, Director of Music Ministry  
Tatum Barnes, Director of Religious Education  
Melissa Howard, Office Administrator  
admin@starrkingfellowship.org

#### **Governing Board**

Pres.: Mary Crowell  
Vice Pres.: Jane Clay  
Treasurer: Janet Englund  
Secretary: Stephanie Halter  
Trustees:

Cindy Spring  
Sandy Mucci  
Stewart Weldon  
Richard Odman  
Diana Pamplin

## **Mission and Vision statement**

### **Mission:**

At Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, we cultivate more love in the world and nurture more love for the world.

### **Vision:**

Our Fellowship welcomes and cares for people of all ages and varied identities. We experience joy as we build community and use our relationships with each other to create a more loving world.

Our Fellowship embraces what is meaningful and beautiful. We offer diverse experiences in worship, music, and the arts through our services, events, and the use of our building.

We live and model our values, collectively creating social and environmental justice with direct action and financial support.

[Back to Home Page](#)

## **About Membership in Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

### **What it Means to be a Member**

Membership is open to all individuals sixteen years and older regardless of race, creed, national origin, gender or sexual orientation who are in harmony with the visions, goals and principles of Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

You are invited to become a member by participating in a Path to Membership orientation or by meeting with the Minister to review the benefits and responsibilities of membership. All new members sign the official Membership Record book witnessed by the Minister or a Membership Committee Chair.

Members are entitled to the services of the Minister and the use of the sanctuary for Rites of Passage (weddings, dedications, memorial services, etc.) at no cost. Members are eligible to serve in elected officer positions and serve as committee chairs. Members have the privilege of full voting rights.

Membership is maintained by active participation in the Fellowship, by supporting the annual Stewardship Drive and/or contributing service toward the Fellowship.

### **What it Means to be a Friend**

A Friend of Starr King UU Fellowship is an individual in harmony with the visions, goals and principles of our Fellowship who chooses not to sign the Membership Record Book. A Friend may participate in any and all Fellowship activities but does not receive Rites of Passage services without a fee, is not eligible to vote or serve as an elected officer or committee chair.